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Wind Cave National Park News Release

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Finding of No Significant Impact Signed for Wind Cave National Park's Parking Lot Project

Wind Cave National Park Superintendent Linda L. Stoll announced today that the Finding of No significant Impact (FONSI) for the Project to Prevent Polluted Runoff from Entering Wind Cave was signed on September 24, 2002, by William W. Schenk, Midwest Regional Director for the National Park Service.

The Preferred Alternative calls for the protection of the cave system, portions of which are located directly beneath the parking lot, from pollution contained in stormwater runoff. To accomplish this, the existing asphalt surface would be removed and replaced with concrete. A stormwater collection and treatment system would capture and treat contaminated runoff from the parking lot, and treated stormwater would be discharged, through an infiltration trench, into the natural drainage of Wind Cave Canyon. The proposed action does not include expansion of available parking capacity.

Construction is planned to begin in September of 2003 with completion anticipated by June of 2004. Only half of the parking lot will be under construction at any one time, allowing visitors and staff to access the Visitor Center.

Printed copies of the FONSI are available for review at the Custer, Hot Springs, and Rapid City libraries and at the Wind Cave National Park Visitor Center; on-line at www.nps.gov/wica/; or by mail by calling the park at 605/745-4600.

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